

JOHN W. HALLEY.

JUNE 14, 1898.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. CANNON, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 4560.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 4560) granting a pension to John W. Halley, have examined the same and report:

The bill proposes to pension said Halley at the rate of \$30 per month, the same to be in lieu of the pension he now receives, and an examination of the record of the claim discloses the following facts: The petitioner is a pensioner by certificate No. 12307, under the acts of January 29, 1887, and January 5, 1893. He is 73 years of age, and, as shown by testimony conceded by the Pension Bureau to be correct, is wholly unable to perform any manual labor and without any income save the pension granted under said certificate. He enlisted for service in the Mexican war on May 20, 1847, and was discharged therefrom July 13, 1848, having had an honorable service of thirteen months and twenty-four days. As one of the principal causes of his present disability he has alleged an attack of yellow fever during the autumn of 1847, while at Vera Cruz, and while there is no record of treatment for this particular disease (the hospital records of the battalion being absent) there is a record in the War Department of his being absent sick from October 31, 1847, to February 29, 1848, and it is not unreasonable to presume that the nature of the illness was as alleged by the claimant. At any rate, a present degree of disability exists that, if of conceded service origin, would entitle him to a rating of \$30 per month, and in view of his advanced age, precluding the probability of his long continuing to receive the bounty of the Government, of the fact, as shown by the testimony in the case, of no means of support save the allowance of \$12 per month, of his deplorable physical condition as certified to by Dr. Dean, and in line with established precedents in such cases the committee recommend the passage of the bill, with an amendment making the amount of pension \$20 per month.